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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A network-based computer platform external access method for use on a computer platform for the purpose of externally controlling the computer platform;

the network-based computer platform external access method comprising: establishing a network system;

establishing a server for serving up a procedure description file via the network system; and

establishing a terminal monitoring platform equipped with a set of I/O devices and

linked via a data communication interface to the computer platform and via the network

system to the server;

wherein

the terminal monitoring platform is capable of being linked via the data communication interface to the computer platform to allow an external access to the computer platform;

and wherein

the terminal monitoring platform is further capable of being linked via the network system to the server to download the procedure description file from the server, and subsequently transferring each user-predefined command in the procedure description file via the data communication interface to the computer platform where the user-predefined command is executed to allow an externally-monitored auto operational procedure on the computer platform.

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- 2. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the network system is Internet.
- 3. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the network system is a LAN system.
- 5 4. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the network system is an intranet system.
 - 5. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the network system is an extranet system.
- 6. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the data communication interface is a serial interface.
 - 7. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the data communication interface is a parallel interface.
 - 8. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the data communication interface is a USB interface.
- 15 9. The network-based computer platform external access method of claim 1, wherein the procedure description file is a test-procedure description file containing a sequence of user-predefined test procedures.
 - 10. A network-based computer platform external access system for use with a computer platform for the purpose of externally controlling the computer platform;
- 20 the network-based computer platform external access system comprising:
 a network system;

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a server, which is linked to the network system, for serving up a procedure description file via the network system; and

a terminal monitoring platform, which is equipped with a set of I/O devices and linked via a data communication interface to the computer platform and via the network system to the server;

wherein

the terminal monitoring platform is capable of being linked via the data communication interface to the computer platform to allow an external access to the computer platform;

10 and wherein

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the terminal monitoring platform is further capable of being linked via the network system to the server to download the procedure description file from the server, and subsequently transferring each user-predefined command in the procedure description file via the data communication interface to the computer platform where the user-predefined command is executed to allow an externally-monitored auto operational procedure on the computer platform.

- 11. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the network system is Internet.
- 12. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein20 the network system is a LAN system.
 - 13. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the network system is an intranet system.

- 14. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the network system is an extranet system.
- 15. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the data communication interface is a serial interface.
- 5 16. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the data communication interface is a parallel interface.
 - 17. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the data communication interface is a USB interface.
- 18. The network-based computer platform external access system of claim 10, wherein the procedure description file is a test-procedure description file containing a sequence of user-predefined test procedures.

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